

WAR WITHIN THE AGE OF WRATH

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#



DW
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Furman
Ng

TRANSFORMERS WAR WITHIN THE AGE OF WRATH



Civil war era Cybertron. The once again united Autobot forces, under the overall command of Ultra Magnus, prepare for a formal ceasefire with the rogue Decepticon and Ultracon forces. Millions of years of conflict appears to be at an end. But, at the critical moment, Starscream's Predacons attack, and Grimlock is killed. Though the Predacon strike is thwarted, an old enemy reappears to plunge Cybertron into a terrifying new age...



THE AGE OF WRATH...

Writer	SIMON FURMAN
Pencils	JOE NG
Inks	FEDO POBLETE
Additional Inks	TRACY HO BRIK SANDER
Colors	JOSH BURCHAM SCOTTIE RUFFS
Letters	BEN LEE

"ISN'T THAT BETTER?"



CYBERTRON ORBITAL
TORUS STATE, PRAXIS

ALL THAT DO-OR-DIE
NONSENSE DONE WITH, AN
END TO THE INTERMINABLE CYCLE
OF INSURRECTION, RESISTANCE,
UPRISING. THE DAWN OF A NEW,
GLORIOUS ERA...

...OF TOTAL
DECEPTICON
SUPREMACY!

CYBERTRON
AS IT WAS ALWAYS
DESTINED TO BE—
REMADE, REALIGNED,
RESHAPED...

...ACCORDING
TO THE WILL OF
MEGATRON.

OH THERE WAS
A DASH OF KICK AND A
PINCH OF STRUGGLE, THE
USUAL RIDICULOUS SPARK
OF *HOPE*...

"...BUT I
SOON *SNUFFED*
THAT OUT!"



THIS
TIREDSOME
CONFLICT...

ALL THAT INTRICATE,
ELABORATE PLANNING AND
EXECUTION, GROUND OUT OVER
COUNTLESS CAMPAIGNS AND
PROTRACTED SIEGE...AND IN THE
END ALL IT TOOK WAS *FLEETING*
BRUTE FORCE.

"OH, AND MY
MILLION-STRONG
AEROSPACE
EXTERMINATION
SQUADRON!"

MUH-MIGHTY
MEGATRON...WHY
ARE YOU *DOING*
THIS TO ME?

WHY?!

A SHAME YOU
COULDN'T HAVE BEEN
THERE TO SEE IT
UNFOLD IN PERSON...

...STARSCREAM.



BECAUSE YOUR
RASH ACTIONS
CAUSED ME...
DIFFICULTIES.

BECAUSE YOUR
PRESUMPTION STOLE MY
RIGHTFUL *THUNDER*, DENIED
ME A TRIUMPHAL DECLARATION
OF SUPREMACY THAT WOULD
HAVE RESOUNDED ACROSS
THE *LENGTH* AND *BREADTH*
OF CYBERTRON!

BECAUSE
I *CAN*!



BUT...ALL I
DID WAS EXECUTE
THE ENTIRE *HIGH*
COUNCIL!

I THOUGHT YOU'D
BE *PLEASED*!

I-I'M YOUR
LOYAL SERVANT,
YOUR GOOD RIGHT
HAND. I...I...

...DON'T--
GEEK!--*DESERVE*
THIS!



MEGATRON...

NOT NOW,
SHOCKWAVE. I'M
PLAYING WITH MY
PIRANACONS.

...WE HAVE A
PROBLEM.



TELL
ME.

THE PORTION WE
EXTRACTED FROM THE PRIMARY
CLONING ASSEMBLY IS
PROVING HIGHLY UNPREDICTABLE,
EVEN IMPENETRABLE.

SUCH ANALYSIS AS I
COULD OFFER WOULD BE BASED
LARGELY ON SUPPOSITION AND
GUESSWORK, NEITHER OF WHICH
I FAVOR. IT WOULD THEREFORE
HELP IF I AT *LEAST* KNEW FROM
WHERE THE TECHNOLOGY
WAS...*APPROPRIATED*.

AH, NO. THAT'S...
SENSITIVE INFORMATION. I'M
AFRAID, SHOCKWAVE, YOU WILL
HAVE TO DO WHAT YOU CAN WITH
THE MATERIALS AT HAND.

I
SEE.

WELL...MY PROBES HAVE
REVEALED A SELF-REPLICATING
ENERGY MATRIX, ONE THAT IS HIGHLY
DIFFICULT TO *ADAPT*. THE TECHNOLOGY
ITSELF EMPLOYS RADICAL AND
CONSIDERABLY ADVANCED VARIATIONS
ON FISSURE-DENSITY MECHANICS
THAT MAY BE BEYOND EVEN
MY INTELLECT.

MM, WELL...I
WANT MY OWN, *DISTINCT*
VARIATION ON THIS CLONING
APPARATUS OPERATIONAL
WITHIN *TEN CYCLES*.

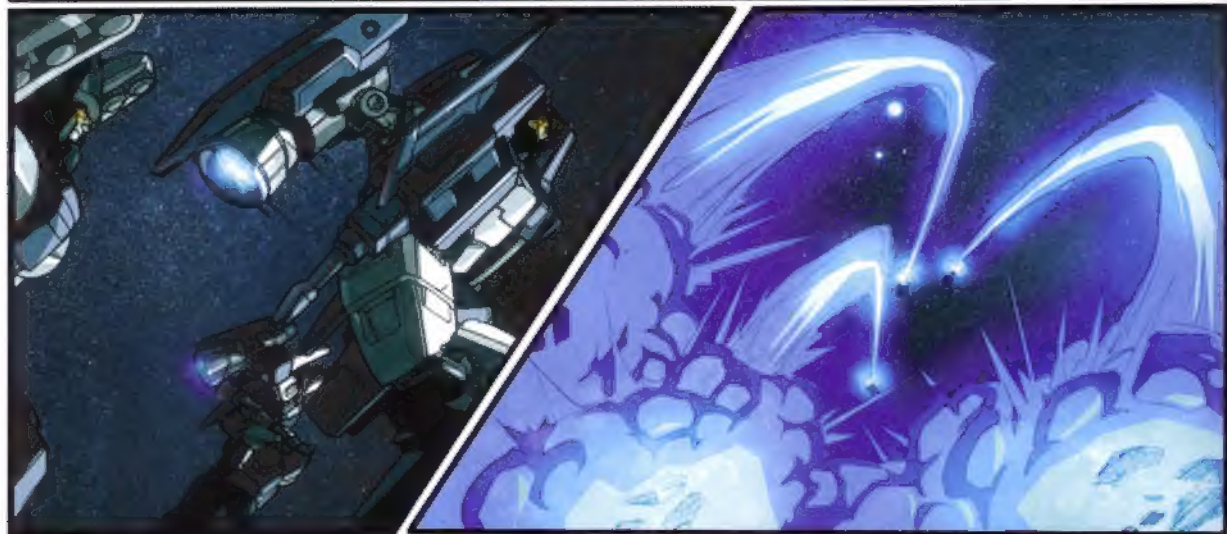
YOU
HAVE UNTIL
THEN.

YES...LORD
MEGATRON.



THREAT FACTOR
THREE.

ENGAGE
PURSUIT MODE.



CONTINUE
SECTOR SWEEP...

SENSOR NET
REALIGNED.

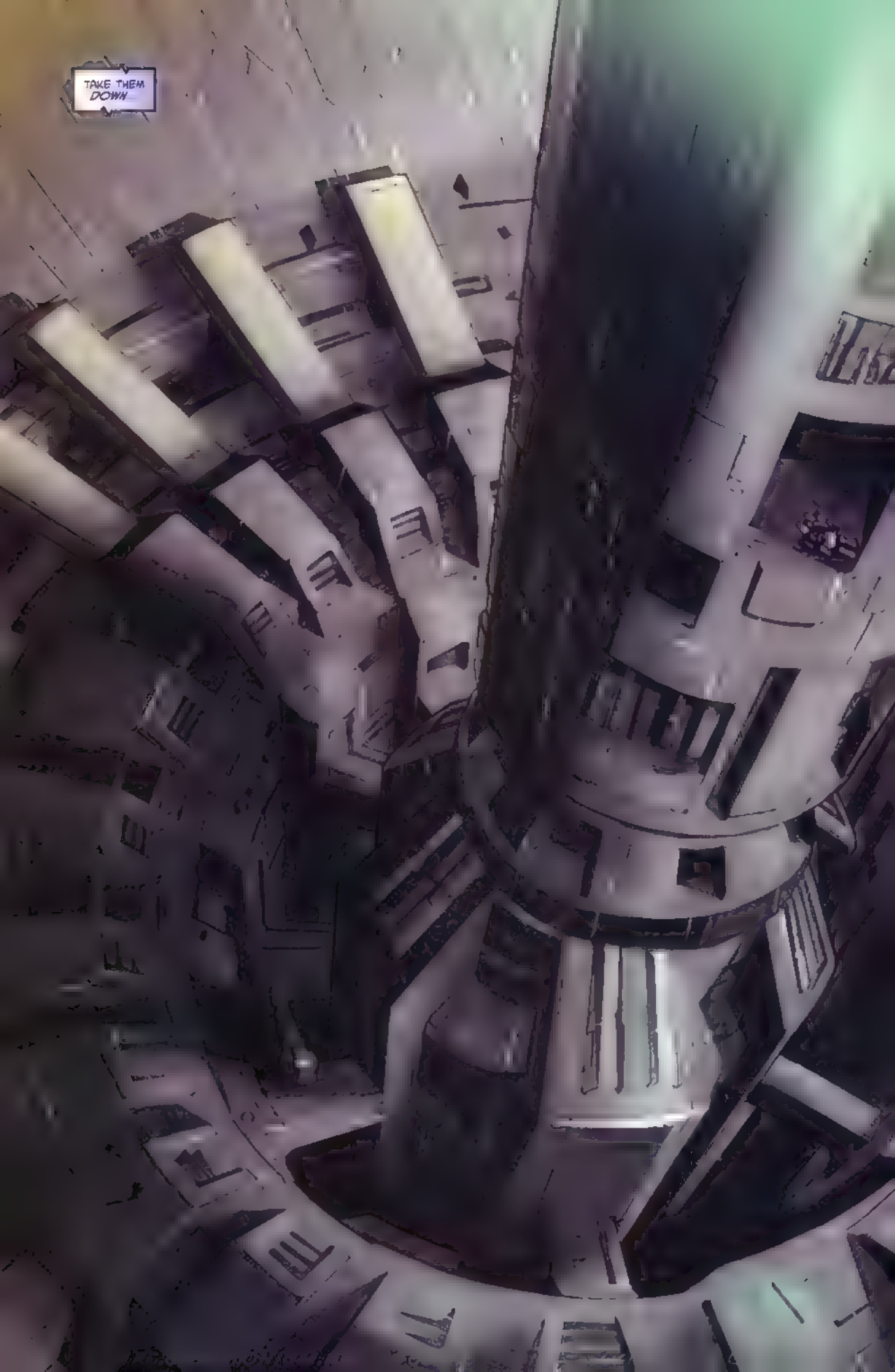
CALCULATING
TARGET SPEED AND
VECTOR.

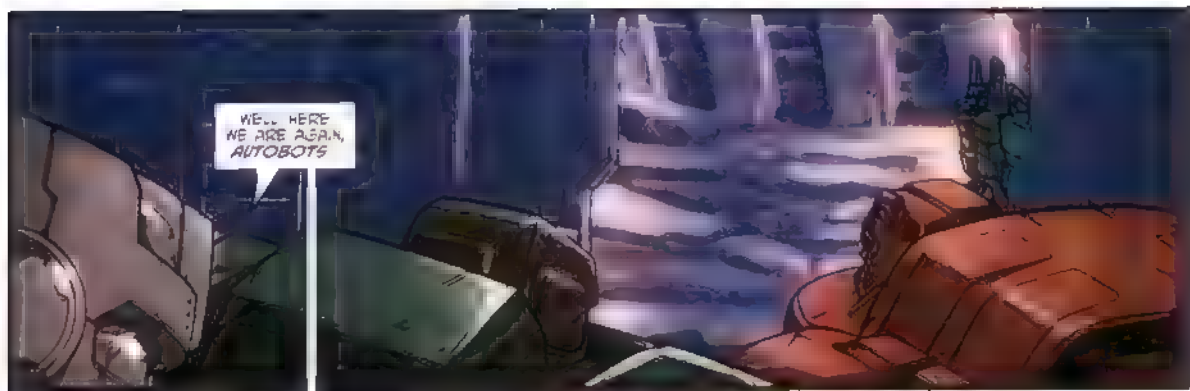
TRAJECTORY
LOCKED.

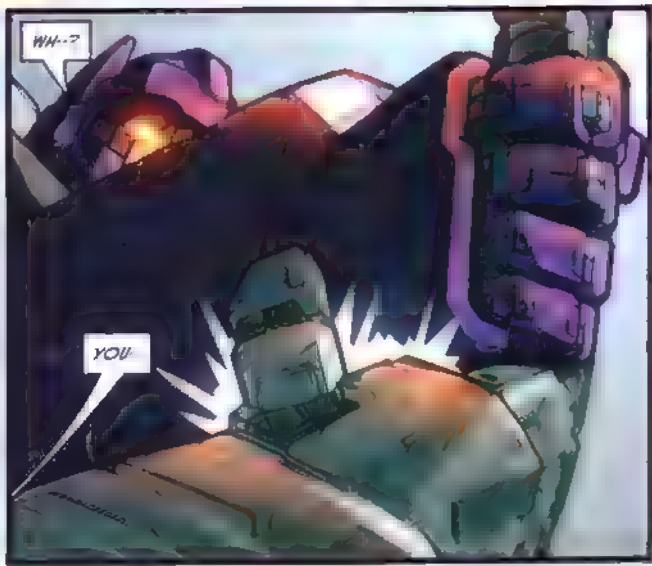
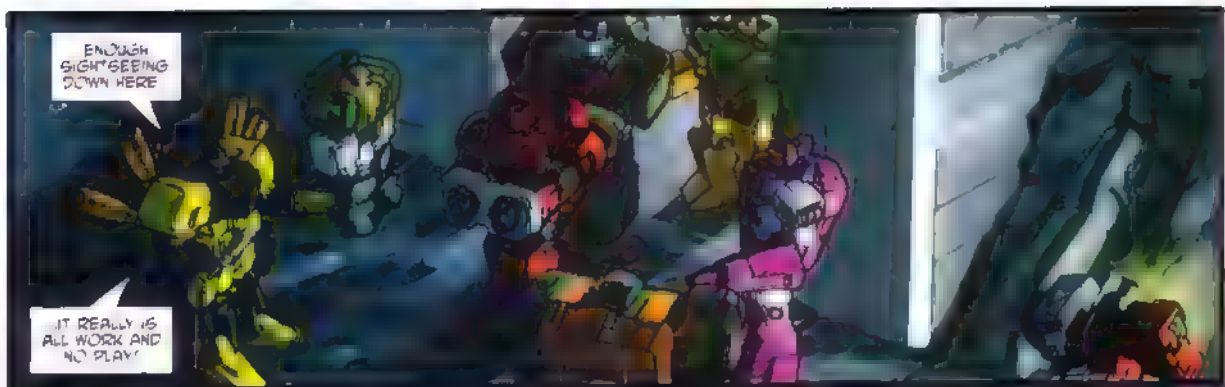
INTERCEPT AND
CAPTURE IN FIVE
MICRO-SECONDS.

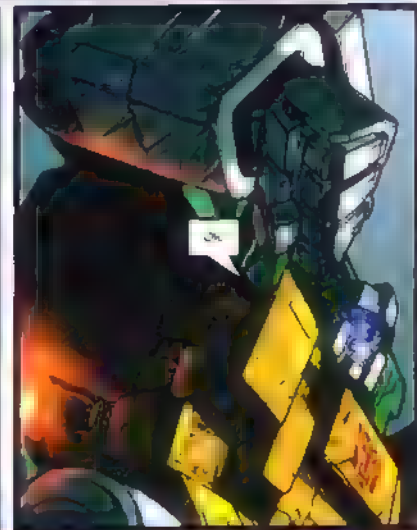
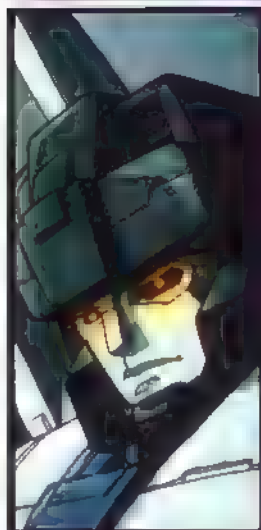


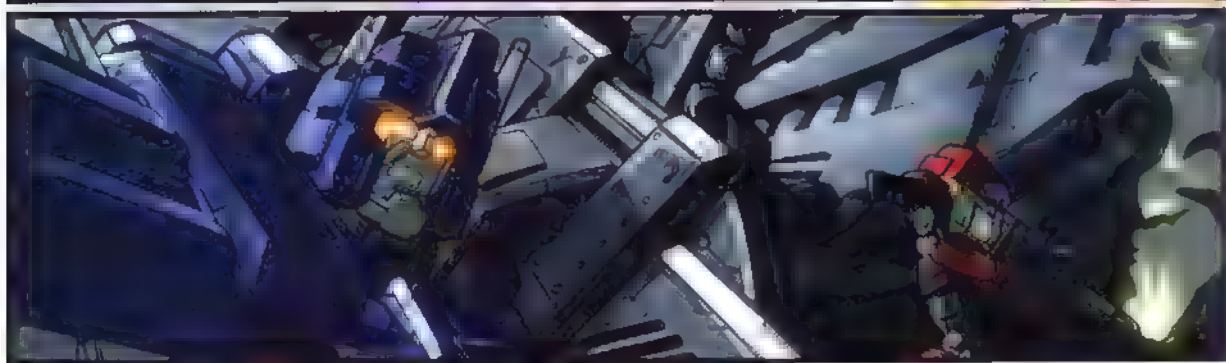
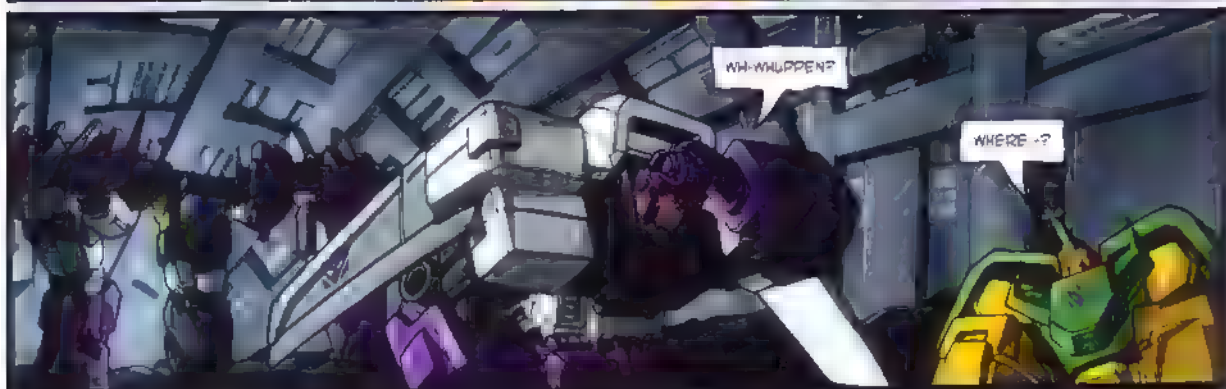
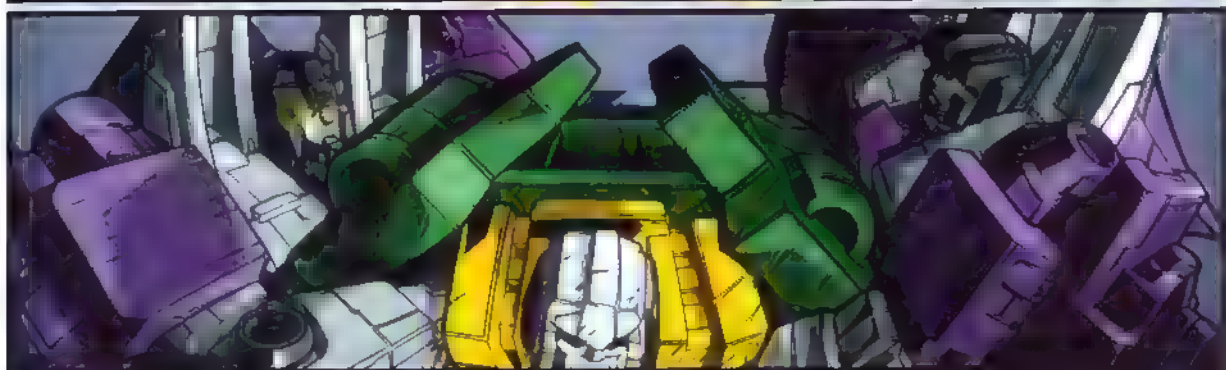
TAKE THEM
DOWN











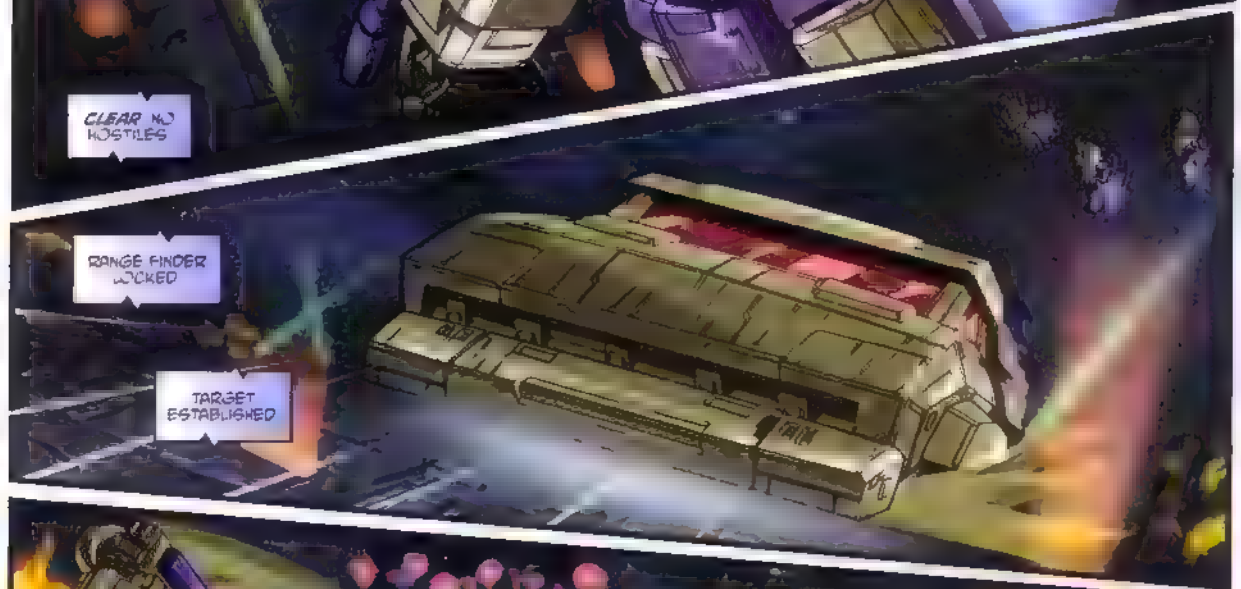




NEW
VECTOR GRID
ALIGNED

SCANNING...

CLEAR NO
HOSTILES



RANGE FINDER
LOCKED

TARGET
ESTABLISHED



YEE--

RAANK!



PREPARE FOR
RECLAMATION

PRAXIS
OCCUPATION HEAD
COMMAND ASSEMBLY

"EVERYTHING IS
PROCEEDING *EXACTLY*
TO SCHEDULE."

THE SUBJUGATION OF
CYBERTRON IS COMPLETE.
THE *ENTIRE* PLANET IS NOW
UNDER MY CONTROL.

OUR
CONTROL.

NOTHING MOVES
WITHOUT MY DIRECT
SAY SO.

OUR
SAY SO.

AND THE *PRIMARY*
SHAFT HAS BEEN SUNK
ACCORDING TO MY
SPECIFICATIONS.

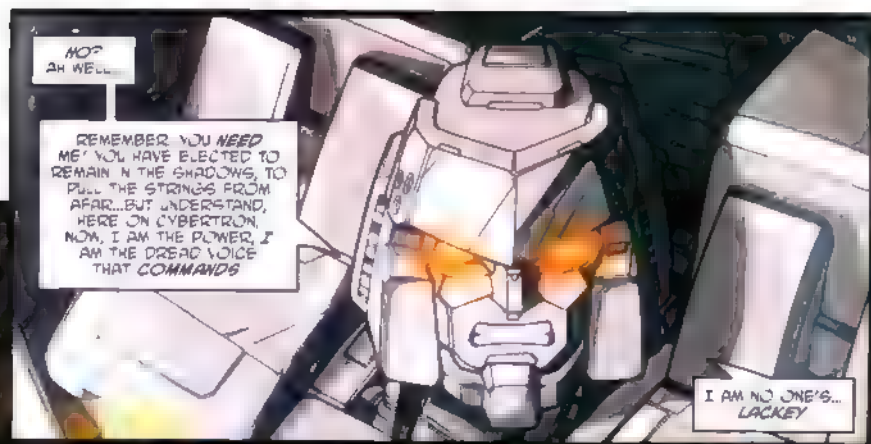
OUR
SPECIFICATIONS.

ALL IS AS IT
SHOULD BE.

WE REMAIN
UNCONVINCED.

I SEE.

WELL THEN, PERHAPS
YOU'D CARE TO COME SEE FOR
YOURSELVES A LITTLE MORALE
BOOSTING APPEARANCE FOR
THE RANK AND FILE...



MOP
AH WELL...

REMEMBER YOU *NEED*
ME! YOU HAVE ELECTED TO
REMAIN IN THE SHADOWS, TO
PULL THE STRINGS FROM
AFAR...BUT UNDERSTAND,
HERE ON CYBERTRON,
NOW, I AM THE POWER, I
AM THE DREAD VOICE
THAT *COMMANDS*

I AM NO ONE'S...
LACKEY



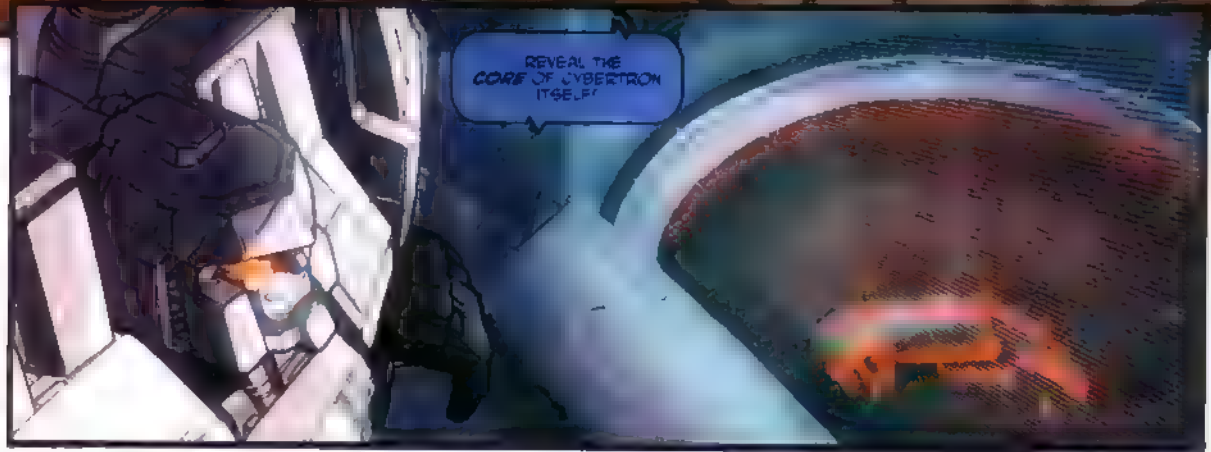
BUT LET US
NOT BICKER. IN THE
END, OUR GOALS
ARE *MUTUALLY*
COMPATIBLE

SOUNDWAVE
PROGRESS REPORT

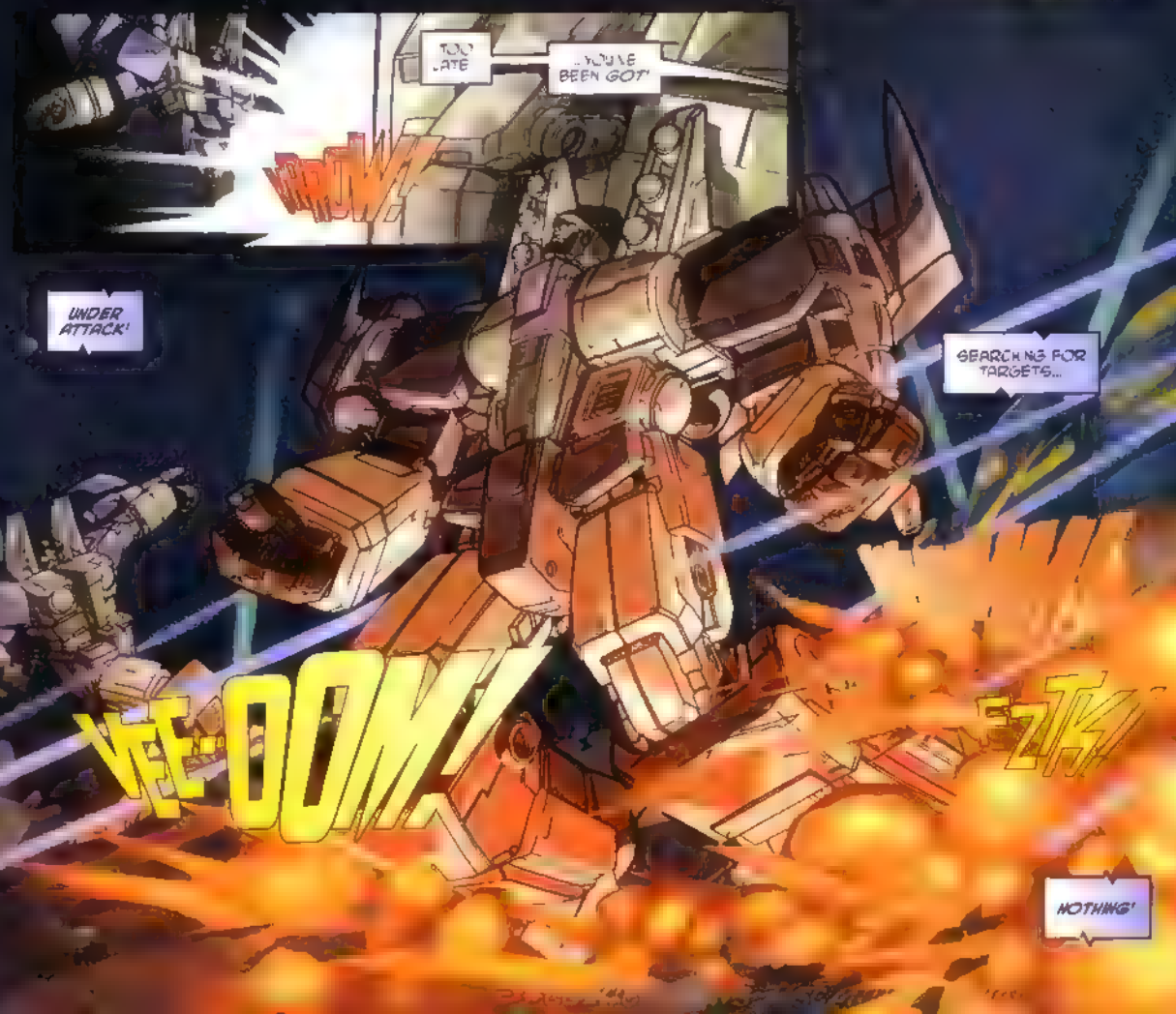
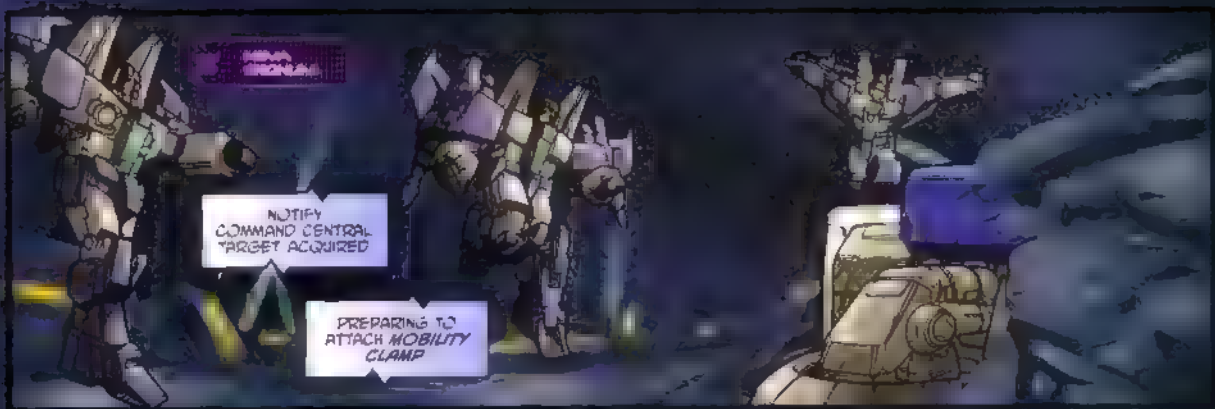



LORD
MEGATRON.

*TARGET DEPTH HAS
BEEN REACHED. WE ARE
PREPARING TO INITIATE THE
FINAL LEVEL OF EXCAVATION.
THESE IMAGES YOU ARE
NOW RECEIVING.*



REVEAL THE
CORE OF CYBERTRON
ITSELF!





PERCEPTOR'S
NULL F.E.L.C. CLOAK IS
WORKING. THEY CAN'T
SEE US.

SIREN, HOSEHEAD,
JOYRIDE, SLAPDASH.
CONCENTRATE YOUR
FIRE! KEEP IT TIGHT
AND TARGETED!

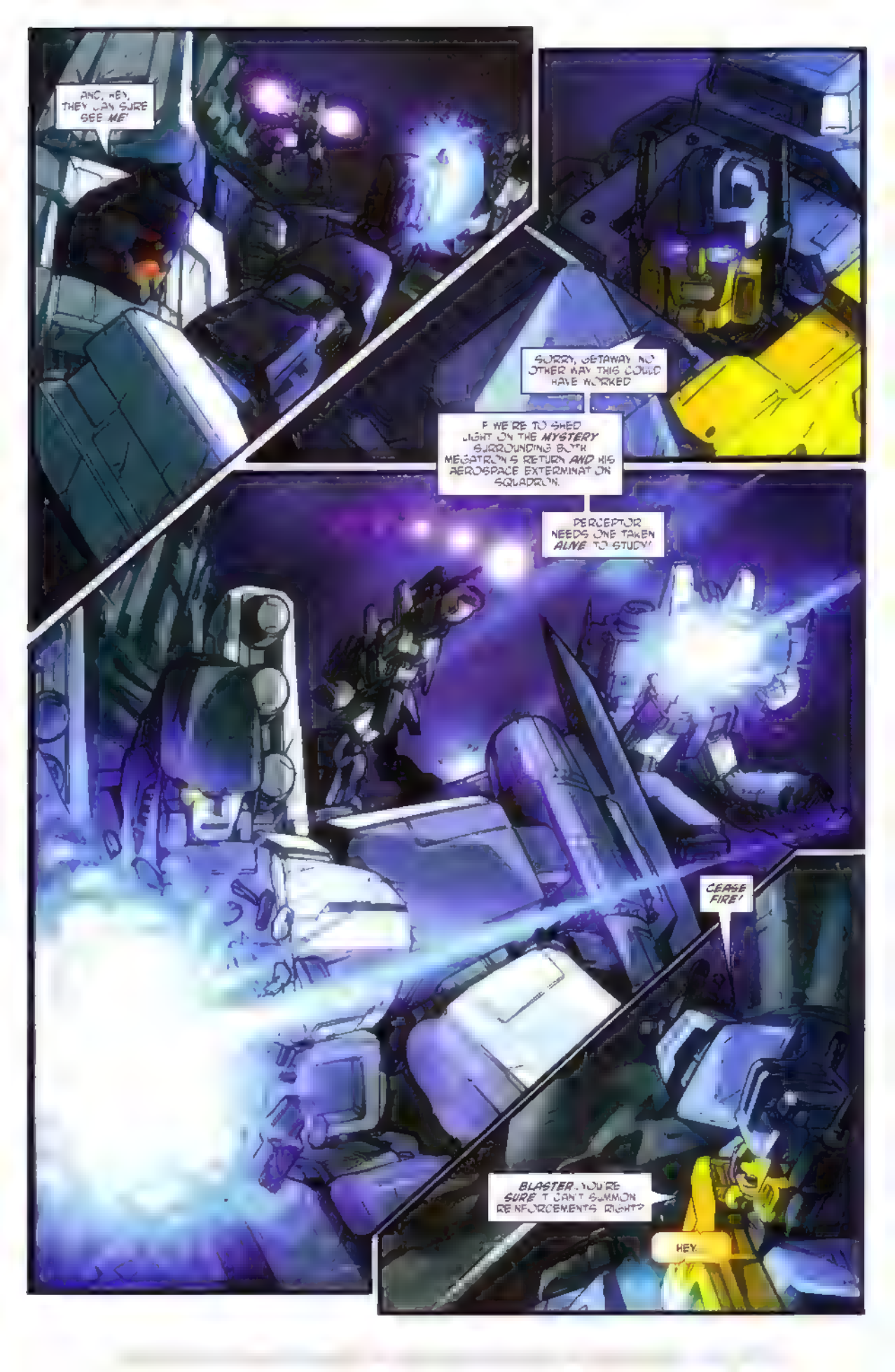


SO TELL ME,
NIGHTBEAT.

WOULD YOU
HAVE LEFT IT ANY
LATER?

THIS DECOY MAN
HAVE EXTRA ENDURANCE
AND A WHOLE HEAP OF
REDUNDANT SYSTEMS
TO CALL ON.

BUT I'M NOT
INDESTRUCTIBLE!



ANC, HEY,
THEY CAN SURE
SEE ME!

SURRY, GETAWAY NO
OTHER WAY THIS COULD
HAVE WORKED

F WERE TO SHED
LIGHT ON THE MYSTERY
SURROUNDING BOTH
MEGATRON'S RETURN AND HIS
AEROSPACE EXTERMINATION ON
SQUADRON.

PERCEPTOR
NEEDS ONE TAKEN
ALIVE TO STUDY!

CEASE
FIRE!

BLASTER, YOU'RE
SURE I CAN'T SUMMON
REINFORCEMENTS RIGHT?

HEY



...I'M JAMMIN',
I'M JAMMIN'.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

DECLARATIONS OF WAR

Greetings Transfans,

Decided to mix it up a bit this time around. We have a few questions from fans about the whos and whats and wheres, PLUS something a little different at the end. And by the way, to answer the hundred or so questions we get each month about this: There still isn't a War Within toyline planned...but we can all keep saying our secret prayers to Primus (or at least to Hasbro).

Dreamwave!

I just bought War Within Volume 1 Pocket and it's really good. Now I hear that there's a Volume 3 comic being released in August. I'd really like to collect this, and was wondering if Volume 2 will ever come out on Pocket format, so I can understand Volume 3.

Thanks,
Paul de Banzie

There aren't any plans as of yet for a Volume 2 PocketBook. The Volume 2 TPB just came out and is chockfull of lots of goodies: faction explanations, creator interviews, character designs and more. Now, if the full-size trade does indeed sell out—and there's demand—sure, we can print out some Pockets. So let's wait and see!

Hey guys and girls,
Are the clones that are mentioned in "Age of Wrath" the same clones we see in G1 with Megatron?

How did these Seekers come to look like this when the War Within Seekers are Cybertronian in appearance?

I take it this will be explained, but I was hoping the clones would resemble War Within seekers! The WW Seekers look totally badass!

Here's what Simon Furman has to say. About the Air clone jets: "Yes and no—the two are certainly linked." Why the seekers appear this way: "They were created by a race with future knowledge..." And your last question: "You'll learn more in Issue #4!"

Leave it to Furman to be his cryptic self when answering these questions. I guess the likable Brit can't exactly give away everything, can he?

Hi!
I've read both series and loved them both. I got thinking of all the Transformers from G1 that have yet to be introduced. I was kind of curious if anyone else thought these Autobots/Decepticons should get a War Within treatment in the next series or at some future time. For starters, how about Sky Lynx and the G1 Predacons? Tiffanno!

Ask and ye shall receive! For this, we went to the man who lives, breathes and (quite possibly) eats Transformers: Mr. Don Figueroa:

"For Sky Lynx, I see him originally having an actual robot mode, but maybe he got damaged

along the way and had to be reconfigured into a shuttle/carrier. I would probably keep his shuttle and carrier mode, (but Cybertronize the shuttle) and keep the combined dinobird mode but omit the lynx mode, and just give it a Duocon-style robot mode.

"I did a small cameo of one of the Predacons in the first WW series—I see them as a bunch of ancient-looking Cybertronian siege machines, almost Roman/Greek-like with a lot of elaborate designs and symbols but still very mechanical-looking. Maybe a tank-like battering ram for Headstrong, a drill tank for Razorclaw (imagine the mane as part of the spinning drill head), a Divebomber for Divebomb (ironic eh?), Rampage would probably be a catapult of some kind (since cats are springy) and Tantrum as a flamethrower-type tank."

Hi everybody,
Who thinks there's room for the Japanese Characters in War Within? I do! License issues aside, WW is the perfect place to bring in the Takara line! Characters such as Victory Leo, Overlord, Deathsaurus and Dai-Atlas fit in with the look of the Transformers in the WW series—bulked up and armed to the teeth!

Did anyone else see Don's and others depictions of these characters in Issue 78 of Toyfare? They were excellent! I'd particularly love to see characters like Overlord and Deathsaurus fighting side by side with their leader WW Megatron!

Darth Zealous

Here's what Don had in mind for a WW treatment of the Japanese 'Bots:

"You know, I have all these 'Bots and if you look at them, they all seem to be Cybertronian-designed already, apart from Victory Leo. I don't see a robot having a lion beast mode millions of years before earth lions existed, but he does have a jet mode that's very Cybertronian. I'd say all of them are pretty much bulked and armed to the teeth. So to be honest, if I was to do WW again and all these guys were major players, I'd leave them alone for the most part. I'd probably make Overlord's tank mode a hover tank or something, and maybe omit Victory Leo's lion mode, but they probably wouldn't change too much. However...if the story were set four million years in the future, THEN I could go nuts and do some upgrades, add-ons and more..."

Well, time again to pack up the mailbag and get outta here. But before I go, I should point out that if you have an idea about who you think should get the War Within Makeover, let us know. Make sure it's a character that hasn't been seen yet, and maybe, just maybe, we will ask one of the experts around here what they would do about it!

Keep on truckin' Transfans!

MATT HANSEN
Copy Editor
Dreamwave Productions



#3 NEXT-MONTH

THE SAME... BUT DIFFERENT!
All Clones are the same, right? Wrong. Desperate to uncover the secret of MEGATRON'S boundless army and his newfound power, the remaining rag-tag band of AUTOBOT insurgents attempt to extract and study one Clone Warrior from the dread Aerospace Extermination Squadron. But NIGHTBEAT, GETAWAY, HOSEHEAD, SIREN, JOYRIDE and SLAPDASH may just have bitten off a lot more than they can chew!

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WARLANDS LENGTHS

2004 • OCTOBER • 2004 • OCTOBER • 2004 • OCTOBER • 2004 • OCTOBER

WARLANDS RETURNS!

DREAMWAVE AND DBPRO GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING

At long last, Dreamwave returns to *Warlands*, the title that helped propel DW, led by the incredible Dabel Brothers! Series creator **Pat Lee** is charting the course, while **Ernst Dabel**, President of Dabel Brothers Production will be writing the series. Lynx Studios' **Edu Francisco** (Legacy) will handle the penciling duties with **Etienne St-Laurent** digitally painting.

Dreamwave President Pat Lee is thrilled for the return of his creation. "Warlands is something I hold very dear to my heart. It represents Dreamwave's birth and one of our first original properties. Warlands has hundreds of characters and is extremely epic in proportion; it is a large part of who I am today," shares Pat Lee, "DBPro shared many of the same ideas we had for Warlands. This story is part of Dreamwave's heritage and we definitely owe it to Warlands to bring it back with the best art team possible."

"I have always loved Warlands, since I first discovered it," Ernst Dabel says. "My brother Les and I always looked up to Pat since we first saw Warlands Issue #1. Pat inspired us so that we could start our company, in fact."

"From the very start Pat had something in mind for this new series." Dabel continues, "So when we showed him the artwork and where the story would go, Pat was extremely pleased because we were all on the same page."

This series will follow the dark days preceding the First War of the Races when Lord Malagen turned his hungry gaze to the East. Even though they are already falling prey to Lord Malagen's machinations, The Realms of the East are completely unaware of his ultimate goal, to crush them to his will and feast on them as he did in the west. Look for the return of several original, fan favorite Warlands characters including Shrogran, Aalok, Vardemis and many more!

Warlands: Malagen's Campaign will be released on a monthly basis, starting **January 2005**—so get ready, as Dreamwave and the Dabel Brothers prepare for war!

A limited edition Warlands preview ashcan can be found at www.DreamwaveProd.com or www.DabelBrothers.com.

OCTOBER ESSENTIALS:



**DREW STRUZAN:
D'NEVE
HARDCOVER**



**MEGA MAN
VOL. 1
POCKET BOOK**



**TF ENERCON
#28**



**TF GENERATION ONE
#10**



**TF/GI JOE
"DIVIDED FRONT"
#1 of 6**



**TF WAR WITHIN
"THE AGE OF WRATH"
#2 of 6**



**TF/GI JOE
"DIVIDED FRONT"
LITHOGRAPH**



FROM THE DESK OF PAT LEE

It's been one crazy summer! From the San Diego Comic-Con, to all the store signings on the West Coast, and back to Toronto for another show, it's been one awesome ride. It was great to meet some new and old faces at the shows. I met a ton of wonderful people that read our comic books. Thanks for swingin' by, everyone!

With some really cool new DW projects on the go such as *Beast Wars*, *Transformers/GI Joe* and *Killzone*, along with bringing back some old school titles such as *Warlands*, it's gonna be an incredible 2005! And thanks to everyone for making *Devil May Cry* such a hit! We have SOLD OUT on issues #1 and #2! Many people have asked me to make *Devil May Cry* an ongoing series...hmm...you never know. We have lots of really neat projects coming up soon so definitely check out www.dreamwaveprod.com and get ready for a crazy trip! I'm pummeling away at my desk getting *Transformers/GI Joe* out, and man do we have some cool surprises for you, the reader!

For all those aspiring artists out there who came by our booth at the shows, keep up the good work and keep the dream alive. Ok folks, time to hit the drawing board once again, hope to see you all in the near future... peace!



PAT LEE
Pat "Psycho" Lee
President,
Dreamwave Productions

BASE OF OPERATIONS:
Markham, ON

CURRENT/UPCOMING PROJECTS:

Pencil: *Transformers/GI Joe* Vol. 2, *X-Men/Fantasia* Four, *Devil May Cry*

PAST PROJECTS:

Transformers G1, *Batman/Superman*, *Warlands*, *Darknoids*

HARDEST TRANSFORMER TO DRAW
Devastator

COOLEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR
King Arthur

HOTTEST BLONDE:
EMMA FROST OR SUE RICHARDS?

Shoot, that's hard. How about both!

WWW.DREAMWAVEPROD.COM

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PRODUCTION MANAGER: DEBBIE CHOD-WING PROJECT MANAGER: GRAHAM CRUZ COPY EDITOR: MATT HANSEN
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